



MARIA WESTON CHAPMAN,

COUNTESS OF MERTON,

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LA BELLE ASSEMBLÉE,

FOR SEPTEMBER, 1830.

ILLUSTRATIVE MEMOIR OF THE RIGHT HONOURABLE CHARLOTTE, COUNTESS OF VERULAM.

THE Right Honourable Charlotte, Countess of Verulam, was the only daughter of the late Charles Jenkinson, first Earl of Liverpool, by his Lordship's second wife, Catherine, daughter of Sir Cecil Bishopp, of Parham, in the county of Sussex, Bart. Paternally, her Ladyship's family is of old standing in the county of Oxford. Tradition describes the Earl of Liverpool as a descendant from Anthony Jenkinson, an eminent navigator and merchant in the reigns of Edward VI., Queen Mary, and Queen Elizabeth. That gentleman was ambassador from England to the Ottoman Porte, and to the Czar of Muscovy; and returning, possessed of great wealth, he vested his fortune in lands in the counties of Oxford and Gloucester. However, it is certain that Robert Jenkinson, of Walcot, near Charlbury, in Oxfordshire, Esq., an ancestor of the Countess of Verulam, had the honour of knighthood conferred on him by King James I., in the year 1618.* He married Anna Maria, eldest daughter of Sir Robert Lee, of Billeslee, in Warwickshire. His son and heir,

Robert, was created a Baronet by Charles II., on the 18th of May, 1661; and he repeatedly sat in Parliament as one of the representatives of the county of Oxford. His wife, Mary, was a daughter of Sir John Banks, of Kingston Hall, in the county of Dorset, Knt., Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, in the reign of Charles I. He was in close friendship with Mr. Robert Boyle; and also with the celebrated Sir Matthew Hale, who, by his will, appointed him trustee of his estates, and guardian of his grand-children. He was succeeded by his eldest son,

Robert, the second Baronet, who married Sarah, daughter of Thomas Tomlins, of Bromley, in the county of Middlesex, Esq. His third son, Charles, father of Charles, first Earl of Liverpool, was a Colonel in the army, Major of the Blues at the battle of Fontenoy, and afterwards Lieutenant-Colonel of that regiment. He is said to have been introduced to the army under the patronage of the celebrated Earl of Peterborough. He died in the year 1750; having married Amarantha, daughter of Wolfran Cornewall, of Herefordshire, Esq., Captain in the Royal Navy. His eldest son,*

* He was the son of Robert Jenkinson, Esq., whose wife, like Lady Arundel and the Countess of Derby, immortalized herself by her heroic loyalty in the civil wars.—See many of the histories and memoirs of the times referred to.

Charles Jenkinson, first Earl of Liverpool, succeeded to the Baronetcy, on the death of his cousin, Sir Banks, the sixth Baronet, without issue, on the 22d of July, 1789.*

With the splendid political career of this nobleman, the public at large is so intimately conversant, that the sketch here introduced shall be very concise.—He was born on the 10th of May, 1727. The early part of his education was received at the Charter-House; thence he proceeded to Oxford, where he took the degree of A.M.; and, possessing but a slight hereditary fortune, he afterwards came to London, to acquire distinction, fame, and honours. Previously to this, however, he had obtained much notice in Oxfordshire, where his alliances were numerous, and where, it is said, his literary talents had rendered important services to his friends in a memorable electioneering controversy.†

leman Usher to the Queen, married Frances, daughter of Admiral John Parker;—Robert, in the Guards, died in Germany, unmarried;—Elizabeth, married the Right Hon. Charles Wolfran Cornwall (Speaker of the House of Commons from 1780 to 1784), whom she survived, and died his widow in 1809;—and Jane.

* Sir Robert, the third Baronet (eldest son of Sir Robert the second Baronet) died without issue, in 1717. His brother, Sir Robert Banks, the fourth Baronet, married Catherine, daughter of Sir Robert Dashwood, Baronet. He died in 1738; leaving issue two sons, Robert and Banks, successively fifth and sixth Baronets. It was on the death of the latter that the Baronetcy devolved on the Earl of Liverpool, then Lord Hawkesbury.

† In a sketch of the Earl of Liverpool's life, given in *Public Characters* (Vol. I.) we are told, that "Sir Edward Turner, of Ambroseden, in Oxfordshire, being of an ancient family, and possessing a large fortune, was desirous to represent his native county in parliament. Having attained considerable influence by means of a large estate, and a hospitable and noble mansion since pulled down by his successor, he accordingly stood candidate as knight of the shire. He was, however, strenuously, but unsuccessfully opposed; for in addition to his own, he possessed the court interest. The struggle, notwithstanding this, was long and violent,

By the first Earl of Harcourt, who was at that time Governor to his late Majesty George IV., as Prince of Wales, he had the honour of being introduced to the Sovereign; and, through the same channel, he was favoured with the notice and confidence of the Earl of Bute, to whom, in 1761, he was appointed private secretary. In the same year, he sat in Parliament for the borough of Cockermouth; in 1763, Under Secretary of State; Secretary to the Treasury in 1766; in 1767, a Lord of the Admiralty; and in 1773 he was appointed Joint Treasurer of Ireland, and called to the Privy Council. In exchange for the Vice Treasurership, he had afterwards the Clerkship of the Pells in Ireland, which had been purchased back by government of Mr. Charles Fox. In 1778, he was made Secretary of War; an office which he held till the downfall of the North administration in 1782. On the accession of Mr. Pitt to power, in 1784, he was appointed President of the Board of Trade; a post which he enjoyed, and the arduous duties of which he performed with remarkable industry and ability, till 1801, when age and ill health rendered him incapable of further exertion in that department. In 1786, he obtained the appointment of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, which he held till 1803.

It was on the 21st of August, 1786, that this old and valued servant of the crown was elevated to the peerage by the title of Baron Hawkesbury, of Hawkesbury, in the county of Gloucester. Ten years afterwards—June the 1st, 1796—he was further advanced to the dignity of Earl of Liverpool; and, on the 23d of July following, he was allowed by His

and it still forms a memorable epoch in the history of contested elections; but for nothing is it more remarkable than being the fortunate occurrence in Mr. Jenkinson's life, which produced all his present greatness. The contending parties having, as usual, called in the aid of ballads, lampoons, verses, and satires, this gentleman distinguished himself by a song in favour of Sir Edward and his friends, which so captivated either the taste or the gratitude of the Baronet, that he introduced him to the Earl of Bute, then flourishing in all the plenitude of power."

Majesty, on the prayer of the corporation of Liverpool, to assume the armorial bearings of that town with his family arms; and accordingly they were exemplified to him, to be borne in a chief over the arms of Jenkinson. His Lordship's motto, of his own selection, was very happily applied—*Palma non sine pulvere.**

The Earl of Liverpool married twice: first, Amelia, daughter of William Watts, Esq., Governor of Fort William, at Bengal, by whom (who died in 1770) he had one son, Robert Banks, who succeeded him in the earldom;† secondly, Catherine, fifth daughter of Sir Cecil Bishopp,

* I have gained the palm, but not without difficulty.

+ Robert Banks Jenkinson, second Earl of Liverpool, Baron Hawkesbury, of Hawkesbury, in the county of Gloucester, Baronet, K.G.; F.R.S.; First Lord of the Treasury, a Lord of Trade and Plantations, a Commissioner for the Affairs of India, Constable of Dover Castle; Warden, Keeper, and Admiral of the Cinque Ports; a Governor of the Charter House, an Official Trustee of the British Museum, Elder Master of the Trinity House, High Steward of Kingston, &c., was born on the 7th of June, 1770. He was summoned by writ to the House of Peers, on the 21st of August, 1806, in his father's life-time. His Lordship married, first, on the 25th of March, 1795, the Lady Theodosia Louisa, third daughter of Frederick Augustus Hervey, fourth Earl of Bristol, and Bishop of Derry. Her Ladyship having died on the 12th of June, 1821, the Earl married, secondly, on the 24th of September, 1822, Mary, daughter of the Rev. — Chester, and sister of the Rev. William Chester, of Denton, in the county of Norfolk. It was on the assassination of Mr. Perceval, in 1812, that Lord Liverpool, acceding to the request of his late Majesty, then Prince Regent, became Premier of England. This high office his Lordship continued to hold till the year 1827; when, on the 17th of February, he was attacked by a stroke of apoplexy, under the fatal effects of which he lingered until the 4th of December, 1828, when death released him from his sufferings. Leaving no family, by either of his ladies, the Earl was succeeded by his half-brother, the Right Hon. Charles Cecil Jenkinson, brother of the Countess of Verulam.

of Parham, in the county of Sussex, Bart., and widow of his first cousin, Sir Charles Cope, of Orton Longueville, in Huntingdonshire, Bart., by whom he had one son, and one daughter: Charles Cecil Cope, present Earl of Liverpool, born in 1784, formerly M.P. and Under Secretary in the Colonial and War Department; and the Lady Charlotte Jenkinson, now Countess of Verulam.

Having, in early life, directed his attention to literary, historical, and statistical research, the Earl of Liverpool became eminently conversant with the laws of nations, the principles and details of commerce, the arcana of political arithmetic, &c. Of these studies, the following results appeared at various periods of his life:—"A Discourse on the Establishment of a Constitutional Force in England," 1756;—"A Discourse on the Conduct of Great Britain in regard to Neutral Nations, during the present War," 1758;—"A Collection of Treatises from 1646 to 1673," in three volumes octavo, 1785;—and "A Treatise on the Coins of the Realm, in a Letter to the King" (a work which excited great notice) 1805.

This able and highly-gifted nobleman died at his house in Hertford Street, May Fair, on the 17th of December, 1808. At that time he held the office of Collector of the Customs Inwards, and also that of Clerk of the Pells, in Ireland. It was supposed that the alarm which his Lordship had experienced a week before, from an accident that befel his lady—part of her dress having caught fire, and the flames having dreadfully injured her before they could be extinguished—greatly hastened his dissolution.

His Lordship's only daughter, the Lady Charlotte Jenkinson, was born on the 8th of June, 1784; and, on the 11th of August, 1807, she was united in marriage to the Right Honourable James Walter Grimston, Earl of Verulam, Viscount Grimston, Baron Verulam, of Gorhambury, in the county of Herts, in the peerage of the United Kingdom; Viscount Grimston, Baron Dunboyne, of the county of Meath, in Ireland; Baron Forester, of Corstorphine, in Scotland; a Baronet; Lord Lieutenant of the county of Herts, &c. By this nobleman—of whose family descent we propose to submit a slight

sketch—her Ladyship has been blessed with the following progeny :—

1. James Walter, Viscount Grimston, born February 22, 1809 ;—2. Edward Harbottle, born August 2, 1812 ;—3. Henry, born August, 1813, died May, 1814 ;—4. Robert, born September 18, 1816 ;—5. Charles, born October 3, 1818 ;—6. Frances Sylvester, born December 8, 1823 ;—7. Katharine, born April 18, 1815 ;—8. Emily Mary, born February 4, 1816 ;—9. Mary Augusta Frederica, born July 29, 1821 ;—10. Jane Frederica Harriett Mary, born January 17, 1825.

The ancient and honourable family of Grimston, so denominated from its possessions in the county of York, is of Norman descent. Its great ancestor was Sylvester de Grimston, who attended William, Duke of Normandy, in his expedition to England, as standard-bearer. In that capacity, he valiantly fought at the battle of Hastings ; and, in the succeeding year, when the Conqueror settled his household, he was appointed his chamberlain. He did homage for Grimston, Hoxton, Tonsted, and other lands, which he held of the Lord Roos, as of his honour of Roos, in Holderness, Yorkshire. A branch of the family is still resident at Grimston. The direct ancestor, however, of the Earl of Verulam—Robert de Grimston—left Yorkshire, and settled in Suffolk, in the reign of Henry V. From him, the fifth in descent was Sir Edward Grimston, who, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, served in several parliaments for the borough of Ipswich ; was knighted by Her Majesty ; called into her privy council ; and continued by her comptroller of Calais, having been so appointed by King Edward VI., in 1552. In 1558, Calais having been taken by the Duke of Guise, Sir Edward was amongst the chief prisoners. After a confinement of about two years in the Bastile, he, in a very remarkable manner, effected his escape from that fortress, and got over to England. His son and successor,

Edward Grimston, Esq., married Joan, daughter and coheir of Thomas Risby, of Lavenham, in Suffolk, Esq., whose mother was daughter and coheir of John Harbottle, of Cresfield, in the same county, Esq. By this marriage, he considerably

enlarged his estate. Dying in 1610, he left two sons, Harbottle and Henry, both of whom were knighted ; and the elder,

Sir Harbottle Grimston, of Bradfield, in the county of Essex, was advanced to the dignity of a Baronet on the 25th of November, 1612. He served the office of Sheriff of Essex, in 1614 ; and he was one of the representatives of that county in three parliaments during the reign of Charles I. By his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Ralph Coppenger, of Stoke, in Kent, he had five sons ; of whom the second, but eldest survivor, was

Sir Harbottle Grimston, the second Baronet, a gentleman well known in the history of his own stirring times. He “was a lawyer, and member of parliament for Colchester, in the beginning of Charles the First’s reign. He took part against the court as long as he could constitutionally do so ; but, after the murder of the King (from whose mock trial, until the perpetration of that foul deed, Sir Harbottle was kept in close confinement), he lived in retirement till the restoration of the monarchy, when he was chosen Speaker of the House of Commons (April 25, 1660), which accomplished that desirable event. He was afterwards called to the Privy Council and nominated Master of the Rolls, and Recorder of Harwich.”—Sir Harbottle was twice married. His first wife was Mary, daughter of Sir George Crooke, Knt., one of the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas. By her he had six sons (of whom five died before their father) and two daughters. Mary, one of the daughters, was married to Sir Capel Luckyn, Knt. and Bart.; Elizabeth, the other, to Sir George Grubham How, of Cold Berwick, in Wiltshire, Bart. Sir Harbottle’s second wife was Anne, elder daughter and eventually heiress of Sir Nathaniel Bacon, K.B., of Culford Hall, Suffolk, and widow of Sir Thomas Meautys. By this marriage he had no surviving issue. His lady having the manors of Gorhambury and Kingsbury, near St. Albans, settled upon her for life, he purchased their reversion from the heir at law ; and Sir Samuel Grimston, his only surviving son, made Gorhambury his principal residence.—Sir Harbottle died in 1683, and was succeeded by his son, Sir Samuel Grimston, M.P. for St. Al-

bans in the reigns of Charles II. and William III. He married, first, the Lady Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Heneage, Earl of Nottingham, Lord High Chancellor of England. By her, he had an only daughter, Elizabeth, who married William, second Marquess of Halifax. His second wife was the Lady Anne Tufton, youngest daughter of John, second Earl of Thanet. Leaving no male issue, at his decease, in 1700, the Baronetcy expired. His large estates devolved, by bequest, upon his great nephew,

William Luckyn, Esq., second son of Sir William Luckyn, third Baronet, of Messing Hall, in Essex, and grandson of Sir Capel Luckyn, by Mary, daughter of Sir Harbottle Grimston. This gentleman assumed the name and arms of Grimston; on the 20th of May, 1719, he was created Baron of Dunboyne, and Viscount Grimston; and, on the death of his elder brother, Sir Harbottle Luckyn, in 1736, he inherited the Baronetcy of his family; a dignity which had been conferred, in 1628, upon Sir William Luckyn, Knt., of Little Waltham, in Essex.*—His Lordship's eldest surviving son,

James, second Viscount Grimston, married Mary, daughter of John Askell Buck-

* Robert Luckyn, Esq., was sheriff of the county of Essex, in 1618; as was Sir William Luckyn, of Little Waltham (created a Baronet in 1628) in 1637. "He married Mildred, third daughter of Sir Gamaliel Capel, of Rookwood Hall, in Essex, Knight, by whom he had two daughters, Jane and Elizabeth; and two sons, Sir Capel, his heir, and Sir William, also created a Baronet, November 13, 1661; but he leaving by Winifred his wife, third and youngest daughter of Sir Richard Everard, of Much-Waltham, in Essex, Bart., an only daughter, Anne (married to Sir Henry Palmer, of Wingham, in Kent, Bart., who died without issue by her in 1706), the title became extinct."

nall, of Oxney, in the county of Herts, Esq. His eldest son and successor was

James Bucknall, the third Viscount, who, in 1774, married Henrietta, only daughter of Edward Walter, of Stoltbridge, in the county of Dorset, Esq.. by Henrietta, second daughter, and at length heiress of George Forester, fifth Baron Forester, in the peerage of Scotland.* His Lordship was, on the 8th of July, 1790, created Baron Verulam, in the peerage of England. He died on the 1st of January, 1809, and was succeeded by his only son,

James Walter Grimston, present Earl of Verulam. His Lordship was born on the 26th of September, 1775. On the 3d of December, 1808, within a month of his father's death, he succeeded his mother's cousin, Anna Maria, Baroness Forester, in that title; and, on the 24th of November, 1815, he was created Earl of Verulam. Thus, his Lordship is first Earl of Verulam, fourth Viscount Grimston, ninth Baron Forester, and second Baron Verulam.

* The surname of Forester has been assumed from an office, as Stewart Dunward, Constable, and others were, which their bearings, *viz.* three hunting horns, seem to confirm. The principal family appears to be this of Forester, whose ancestor, Sir Adam Forester, citizen of Edinburgh in the 6th of Robert II., acquired the Barony of Corstorphin, from Sir William More, of Abercorn, whence his successors took their designation. Upon the accession of King Robert III. to the throne, Anno 1390, he was constituted Lord Privy Seal. On the 2d of the said King, he was commissioned to treat with certain English commissioners for maintaining the peace between the two realms. Likewise, in 1405, he was a second time one of the commissioners authorised to treat with the English, about composing of certain differences between the two kingdoms.